

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method performed by a computer system for providing secondhand ~~article~~ construction machine information, comprising:

a usage data collection step in which usage data showing facts relating to usage of a plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines are collected automatically, said collected usage data including:

(a) usage field data for said each ~~article~~ construction machine indicating a usage field in which said each ~~article is~~ construction machine has been used, said usage field being selected from among a plurality of usage fields which differ from each other as to a workload placed on a construction machine, and

(b) operating data for each said ~~article~~ construction machine indicating operating hours of said each ~~article~~ construction machine used in said usage field, ~~said usage field being selected from among a plurality of usage fields which differ from each other as to a workload placed on an article;~~

a total operating hours determining step in which total operating hours by usage field for said each ~~article~~ construction machine are determined based on the usage field data and the operating data for said each ~~article~~ construction machine included in the usage data;

~~a usage history storage step in which collected usage data are stored as usage history in a data base; and~~

a usage history provision step in which ~~the usage history stored in said data base~~ a display displaying identification information of said plurality of usage fields and the total operating hours by usage field of ~~an article~~ a construction machine which is selected by a customer from among said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines, are provided to the customer via a network, while said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines ~~[[is]]~~ are being put up for sale as secondhand ~~article~~ construction machines.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said usage data collection step includes a step for collecting usage data for said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines by communicating with said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines from a remote location away from said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

a service data collection step in which service data that show facts relating to service of said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines are collected, when said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines has been serviced;

a service history storage step in which collected service data are stored as service history in said data base; and

a service history provision step in which the service history for said selected ~~article~~ construction machine stored in said data base is provided to the customer via said network, when said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines is being put up for sale as secondhand ~~articles~~ construction machines.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said usage data collection step, said usage history storage step, and said usage history provision step are conducted simultaneously in parallel so that said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines still in use can be put up for sale as secondhand ~~articles~~ construction machines.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said usage data includes photographic data showing actual images of said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to any one of claims 1 and 3, further comprising a download step of downloading the usage history or service history for said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines, which are stored in said data base, to a terminal used by said customer via the network.

8-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A computer system for providing information about secondhand ~~articles~~ construction machines, comprising:

a database, and

one or more servers connected to the database; wherein said one or more servers perform
~~usage data collection means for~~ collecting usage data ~~that show~~ showing facts relating to usage of
a plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines automatically, said collected usage data including:

(a) usage field data for each said ~~article~~ construction machine indicating a usage
field, in which said each ~~article is~~ construction machine has been used, said usage field
being selected from among a plurality of usage fields which differ from each other as to a
workload placed on a construction machine, and

(b) operating data for each said ~~article~~ construction machine indicating operating
hours of said each ~~article~~ construction machine used in said usage field ~~fields~~, ~~said usage~~
~~field being selected from among a plurality of usage fields which differ from each other~~
~~as to a workload placed on an article~~ ~~articles~~;

~~a total operating hours determining means for~~ determining total operating hours by usage
field for said each ~~article~~ construction machine based on the usage field data ~~for said each article~~
construction machine and the operating data for said each construction machine included in the
usage data;

~~a data base;~~

~~usage history storage means for storing collected usage data as usage history on said data base;~~

storing the collected usage data on the database; and

~~usage history provision means for providing a display displaying identification information of said plurality of usage fields and the usage history stored in said data base and the total operating hours by usage field of~~ for an article a construction machine which is selected by a customer from among said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines, provided to the customer via a network, while said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines is being put up for sale as secondhand ~~articles~~ construction machines.

20. (Currently Amended): The system according to claim 19, ~~further comprising wherein said one or more servers further perform:~~

~~service data collection means for collecting service data that show facts relating to service of the plurality of articles~~ construction machines when said plurality of articles has been serviced;

~~service history storage means for storing collected service data as service history on said data base; and~~

~~service history provision means for providing the service history for said selected article~~ construction machine stored in said data base to the customer via the network when said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines is being put up for sale as secondhand ~~articles~~ construction machines.

21. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

a usage data recollecting step in which, when said ~~article~~ construction machine is used while said ~~article~~ construction machine is being put up for sale as a secondhand ~~article~~ construction machine, said usage data ~~[[are]]~~ is recollected;

a total operating hours updating step in which the total operating hours by usage field are updated based on the usage field data and the operating data included in the recollected usage data;

a usage data updating step in which the usage history of said ~~articles~~ construction machines stored in said data base are updated based on the recollected usage data; and

an updated usage history provision step in which the updated usage history stored in said data base and the updated total operating hours by usage field of the selected ~~articles~~ construction machine are provided to the customer via the network.

22. (Currently Amended) A method performed by a computer system for providing secondhand ~~article~~ construction machine information, comprising:

a usage data collection step in which usage data showing facts relating to usage of a plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines are collected automatically, said collected usage data including attachment data for said each ~~article~~ construction machine indicating ~~an attachment one or more attachments~~ used by said each ~~article~~ construction machine and operating data indicating operating hours of said each ~~article~~ construction machine for respective attachments;

a total operating hours determining step in which total operating hours by attachment being attached to each construction machine are determined based on the attachment data and the operating data included in the usage data;

~~a usage history storage step in which the collected usage data are stored as usage history in a data base; and~~

~~a usage history provision step in which the usage history stored in said data base and a~~ display displaying identification information of said one or more attachments and the total operating hours by attachment of ~~an article~~ a construction machine which is selected by a customer, are provided to the customer via a network, while said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines are being put up for sale as secondhand ~~articles~~ construction machines.

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, further comprising:

a usage data recollecting step in which, when said ~~article~~ construction machine is used while said ~~article~~ construction machine is being put up for sale as a secondhand ~~article~~ construction machine, said usage data are recollected;

a total operating hours updating step in which the total operating hours by attachment are updated based on the attachment data and the operating data included in the recollected usage data;

a usage data updating step in which the usage history of said ~~articles~~ construction machines stored in said data base are updated based on the recollected usage data; and

an updated usage history provision step in which, the updated usage history stored in said data base and the updated total operating hours by attachment of the selected ~~article~~ construction machine, are provided to the customer via the network.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer system according to claim 19, ~~further comprising wherein said one or more servers further perform:~~

~~usage data updating means for updating the usage history of said plurality of articles stored on said data base based on the collected usage data; and~~

~~total operating hours updating means for updating the total operating hours by usage field; wherein,~~

~~said usage data collecting means recollects~~ recollecting said usage data of said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines when said plurality of ~~articles is~~ construction machines has been used while said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines is being put up for sale as secondhand ~~articles~~ construction machines;

~~said usage data updating means updates the usage history of said plurality of articles stored in~~ storing the recollected usage data on said data base;

~~said total operating hours updating means update~~ updating the total operating hours by usage field based on the usage field data and the operating data included in the recollected usage data; and

~~said usage history provision means provides providing the customer via the network with the updated usage history of said article stored in said data base and the updated total operating hours by usage field.~~

25. (Currently Amended) A computer system for providing information about secondhand ~~articles~~ construction machines, comprising:

a data base;

one or more servers connected to the database, wherein said one or more servers perform:

~~usage data collecting means for~~ collecting usage data that show facts relating to usage of a plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines automatically, including attachment data for each ~~article~~ construction machine indicating ~~an attachment~~ one or more attachments used by said each ~~article~~ construction machine and operating data indicating operating hours of said each ~~article~~ construction machine for respective attachments;

storing the collected usage data on the data base;

~~total operating hours determining means for~~ determining total operating hours by attachment ~~for said each article~~ being attached to each construction machine based on the attachment data for said each ~~article~~ construction machine and the operating data for said each ~~article~~ construction machine included in the usage data;

~~a data base;~~

~~usage history storage means that stores the collected usage data as usage history on said data base; and~~

~~usage history provision means for providing a display displaying identification information of said one or more attachments and the usage history stored in said data base and the total operating hours by attachment for an article~~ a construction machine which is selected by a customer from among said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines, to the customer via a network, while said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines are being put up for sale as secondhand ~~articles~~ construction machines.

26. (Currently Amended) The computer system according to claim 25, ~~further comprising wherein said one or more servers further performing:~~

~~usage data updating means for updating the usage history of said plurality of articles stored on said data base based on the collected usage data; and~~

~~total operating hours updating means for updating the total operating hours by attachment; wherein,~~

~~said usage data collecting means recollects~~ recollecting said usage data of said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines when said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines is used while said plurality of ~~articles~~ construction machines is being put up for sale as secondhand ~~articles~~ construction machines;

~~said usage data updating means updates the usage history of said plurality of articles stored in~~ storing the recollected usage data on said data base;

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~~said total operating hours updating means update~~ updating the total operating hours by attachment based on the attachment data and the operating data included in the recollected usage data; and

~~said usage history provision means provides~~ providing the customer via the network with the updated usage history of said article stored in said data base and the updated total operating hours by attachment.